

Whereas, it is with heavy hearts that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to acknowledge the significant achievements of a life gone by, that of Shirley Littles Burnett, who passed to her eternal reward on January 22, 2004; and

Whereas, Shirley Littles Burnett came into this world in Indianapolis, Indiana, on October 7, 1933, as the tiny infant daughter born to proud and loving parents Alice and Sylvester Littles, who welcomed her into their hearts as a precious gift from God; and

Whereas, Shirley Burnett attended the St. Louis Public Schools and graduated from Vashon High School with Honors in 1950, following which she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from Harris Teachers College, her Master's degree in Education from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, and various specialist certifications in reading and learning disabilities; and

Whereas, often referred to as an "educator extraordinaire", Shirley Burnett played an integral role in the educational development of countless youngsters as a teacher with the St. Louis Public School System for more than forty years, and as an adjunct professor at St. Louis Community College at Forest Park and Harris-Stowe State College; and

Whereas, on February 6, 1954, Shirley embarked upon a new and exciting chapter in her life when she married her beloved Edgar Burnett, a kind and caring gentleman with whom she shared the love and affection of three beautiful daughters, Rochelle Allyson, Karol Ann, and Sharon Wray; and

Whereas, a devoted wife, loving mother, and doting grandmother, Shirley Burnett compiled an enviable list of service to her community through her longtime affiliation with such important organizations as Quettes, the Younger Set, the Kuples Klub, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and St. Peters A.M.E. Church, where she glorified the Lord as a Vacation Bible School teacher, chair of the "Status of Women" seminars for the Missionary Society, and member of the Fidelity Club; and

Whereas, preceded in death by her mother, Alice Littles, and her brother, Kenneth Littles, Shirley Burnett leaves behind to cherish her memory her devoted husband of forty-nine years, Edgar Burnett; her three daughters, Rochelle Burnett, Karol Burnett-Quick, and S. Wray Clay; her two sons-in-law, Fred Quick and Herbert Clay; her sister, Sylvia Price; her brother and sister-in-law, Orthel and Betty Littles; her five grandchildren, Brandon, Justin, Cameron, Jihan, and Lauren; her mother-in-law, Virgie Burnett; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, friends, and former students:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in paying final tribute to Shirley Burnett, a remarkable woman of peace and kindness in this world who will be greatly missed by all those who had the distinct pleasure of knowing and loving her; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the loved ones of the late Shirley Littles Burnett, as an expression of our deepest sympathy.

Offered by _____
Representative Juanita Head Walton
District No. 81

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of
Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second

Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 420, adopted February 5, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker